

c.a.

SANDOVAL ZINC CO.

Sandoval, Ill.
Marion Co. -- L1210500002
ILD053980454

Site Background

The Sandoval Zinc site is an abandoned zinc smelter located 0.5 miles east of the town of Sandoval. The site covers approximately 12 - 14 acres and is relatively flat. Artificial fill (metal rich cinders from the smelting process) was used to fill in low areas and to raise the center of the site by between 5 to 8 feet. On-site cinder thickness ranges from 1 - 10 feet.

Site Description

The site is comprised of two large abandoned buildings, an old retort furnace, a pond to the east of the main plant area (formerly used to obtain process water), and a marsh area to the west. The entire site is covered with cinder fill. Very little vegetation grows on the fill. Surface water runoff flows from the center of the site in a radial pattern entering drainage ditches immediately to the east and west of the property. The cinder fill material appears to have been carried beyond the property lines by surface water runoff and wind dispersion. Large areas in the fields to the north, east and south of the site are either devoid of vegetation or contain sparse, stressed vegetation. Local farmers over the years have attempted to grow various crops in these fields to no avail with the exception of extremely hardy asparagus.

Site History

Site operations began between 1885 & 1890 as a primary zinc smelter. In approximately 1915 operations were converted to secondary smelting which continued until the site closed in 1985. Compounds fed into the kilns were pure zinc, zinc oxide, zinc chloride etc. Sandoval Zinc also accepted materials from third parties as a regular part of its business. Waste materials from the kilns (cinders) were spread throughout the site. These cinders were also stock piled on site and available for use to anyone who wished to haul them away. The primary use of these cinders was for road, driveway, walkway and parking lot surfacing. Cinders were utilized extensively throughout the town of Sandoval and on township roads.

Contaminants

Soil

Heavy metals are the contaminant of concern at this site and throughout the town of Sandoval. Lab analysis of on-site soils has revealed concentrations of lead in a range from 603 ppm to 22,300 ppm and zinc from 3360 ppm to 339,000 ppm. Soil benchmarks based on RAL's for lead are 1000 ppm and 160,000 for zinc. SCDM soil criteria has no benchmark

for lead, zinc has an action level of 170,000.

Potential for exposure to site soils by the general population is high due to a continuous process of persons tearing down the fence which was constructed around the site in 1991 when the site was sealed.

Off-site lead ranges from 27 ppm to 2840 ppm. Zinc ranges from 112 ppm to 12,500 ppm. These samples were taken from residential yards. Potential exposure to these soils is high.

Sediment

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Sediments in the two drainage ditches contained, among other heavy metal constituents, lead ranging from 50 ppm to 3370 ppm and zinc from 261 ppm to 39,000 ppm. These contaminants have migrated off-site, flowed 0.5 miles downstream via intermittent drainage routes to Prairie Creek which is a perennial waterway and fishery. Wetland areas also exist throughout the drainage system.

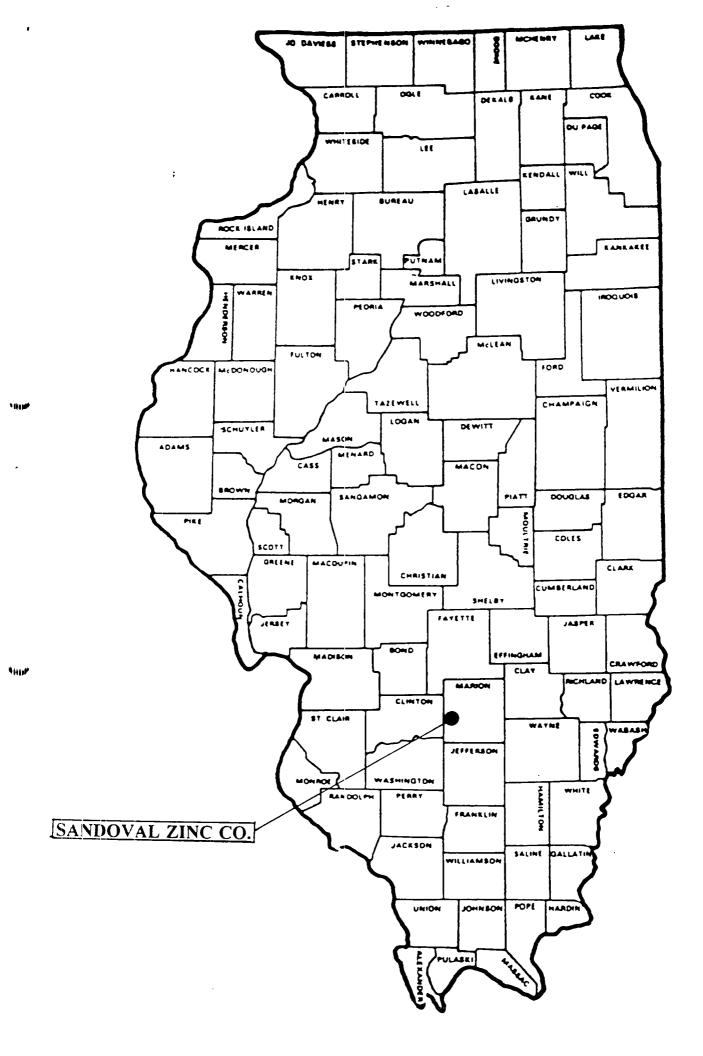
Groundwater

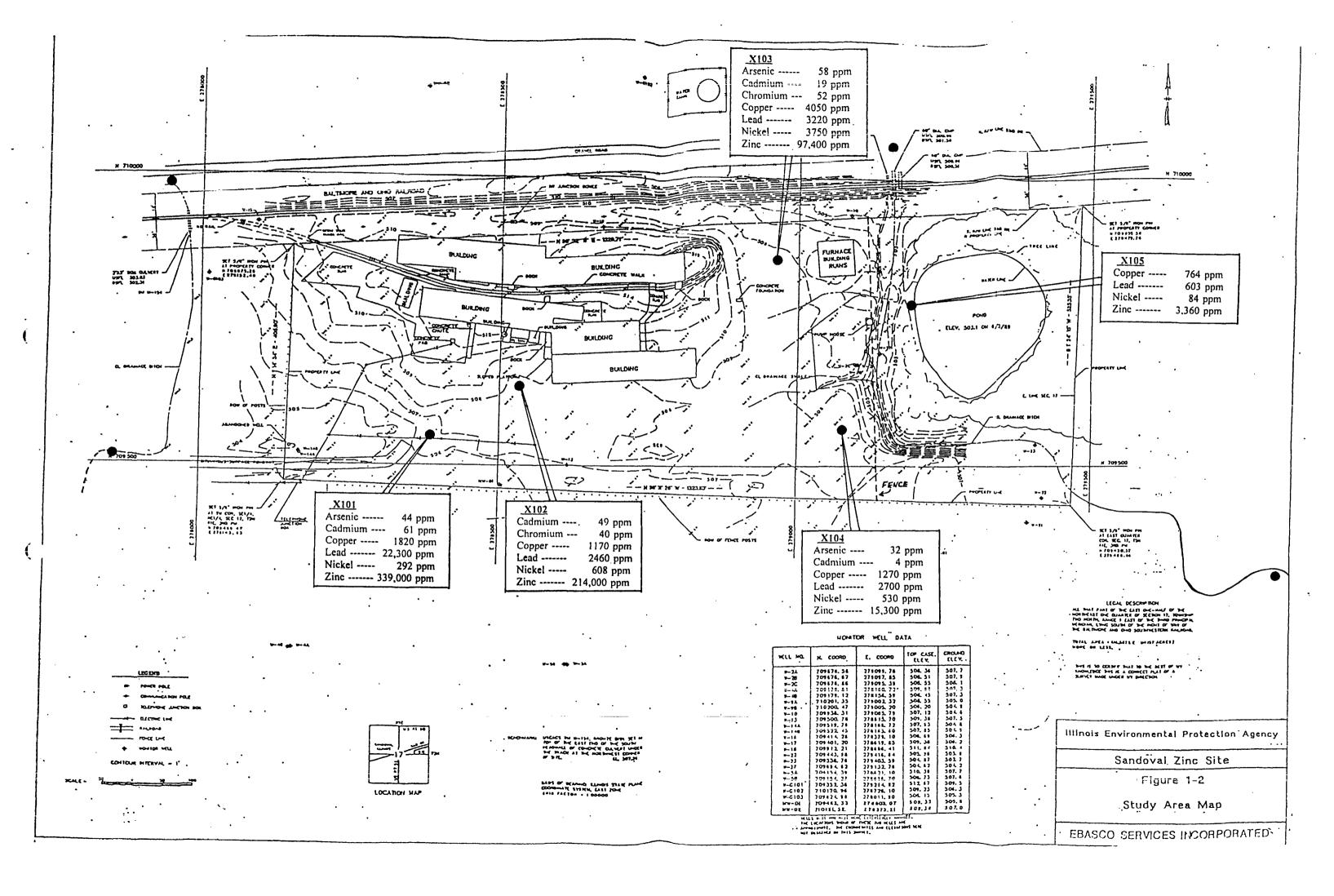
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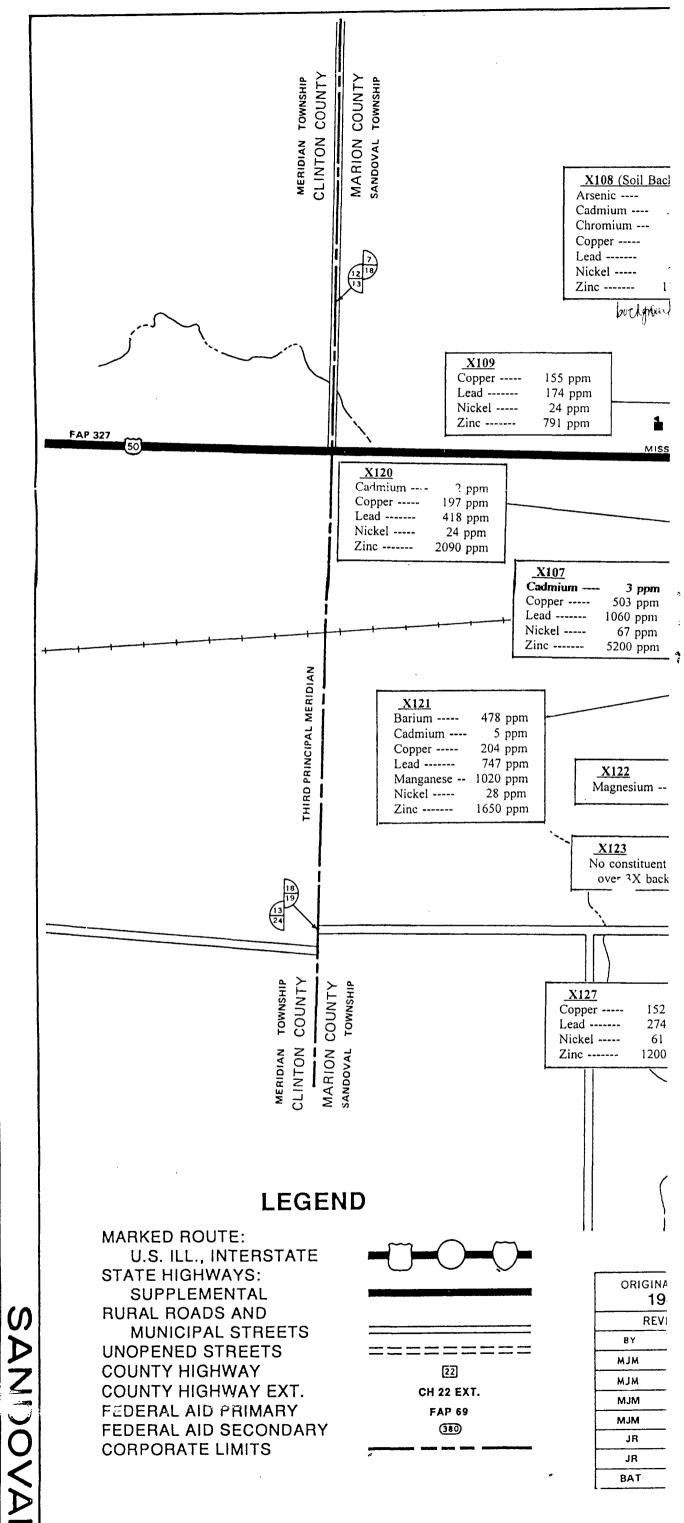
Groundwater monitor wells sampled during past studies and sampling events indicated that samples from some of the wells exceeded Federal Drinking Water Standards for cadmium, chromium, copper and silver.

Drinking water for the town of Sandoval is provided by the city of Centralia, six miles south of Sandoval.

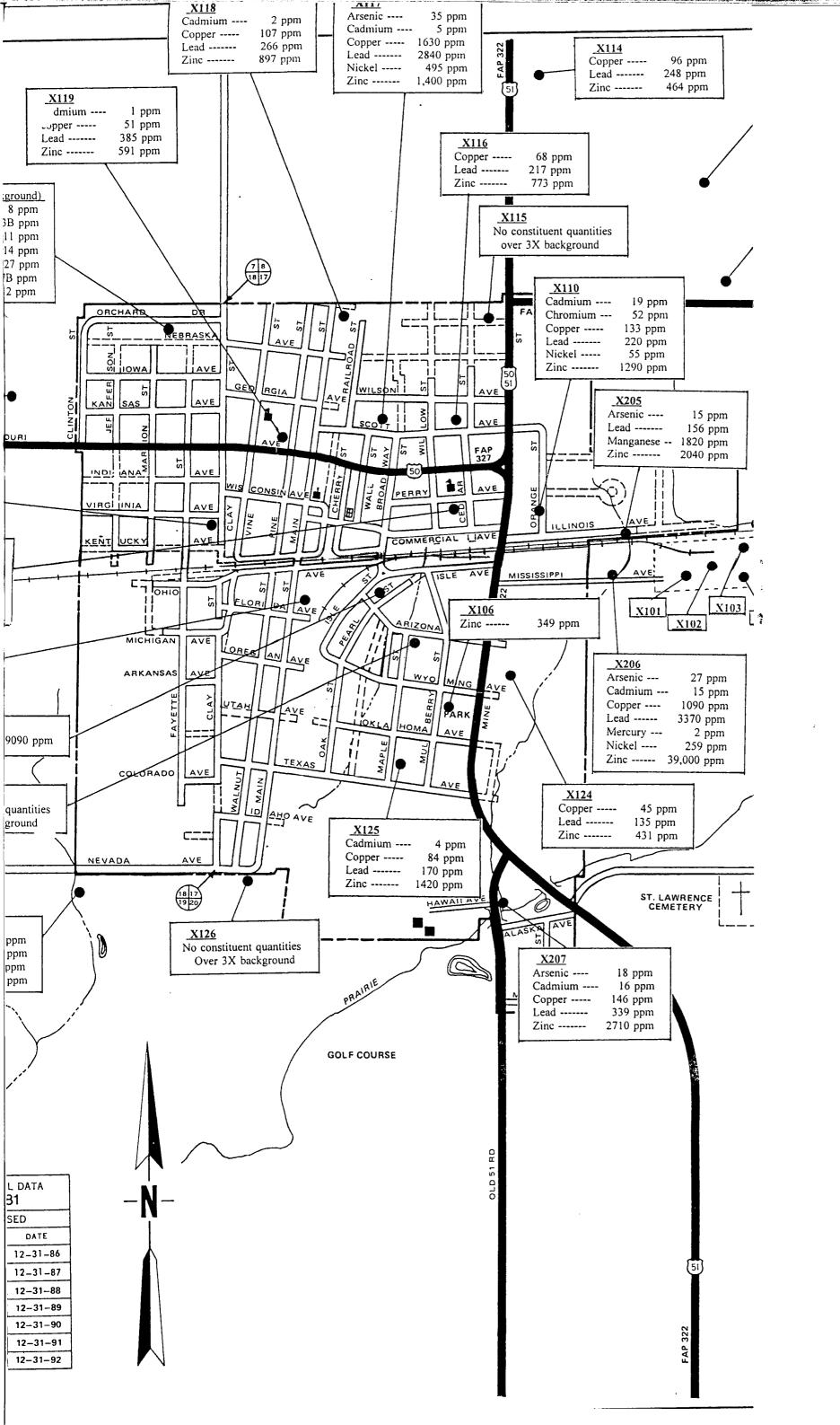
Residents beyond the town system obtain drinking water from private wells which tap thin lenses of water-bearing silty sand or gravel a few inches thick. These wells range from 30 to 60 feet deep. The closest private well is approximately one mile northeast of the site. Potential exposure to groundwater users is low as local soils are of unconsolidated glacial tills which generally inhibit groundwater flow.

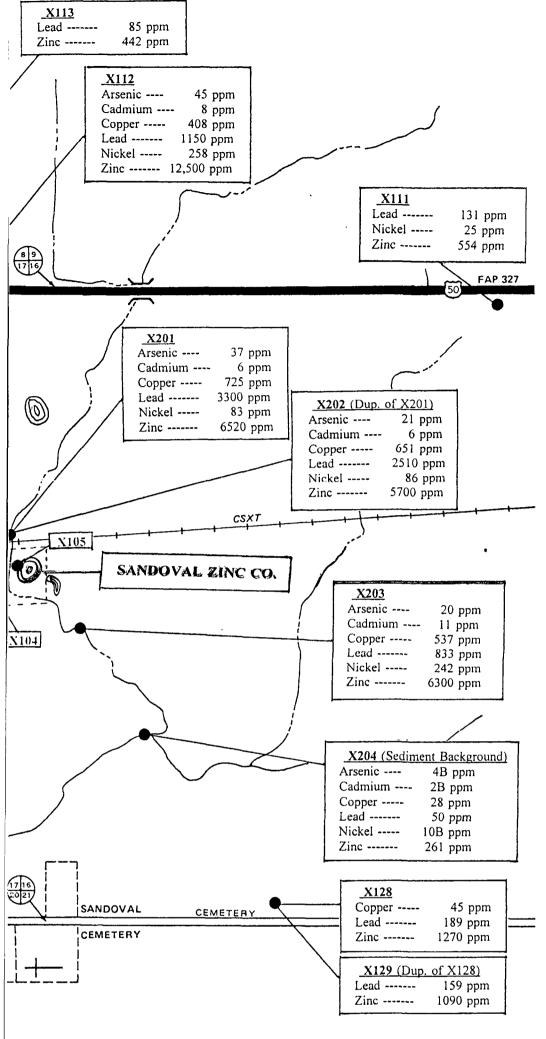






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GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP

VILLAGE OF

SANDOVAL

MARION COUNTY
ILLINOIS

PREPARED BY THE

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING

IN COOPERATION WITH THE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

